REMARKS

Serial No. 10/564,399

Claims 1-8, 13, and 14 are pending. Claims 1-8, 13 and 14 are rejected. Claims 9-12 are withdrawn.

Claim 1 is amended for clarity purposes as to fix the clause "a next available segment and segments" to recite a next available segment and a next available segments". This amendment helps for clarity and does not change the scope or the content of the rejection made by the Examiner. Applicants therefore kindly request that the Examiner enter this amendment into the record.

No other amendments are being made with this paper.

No new matter was entered in view of these amendments.

The Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at the phone number below, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled to discuss any issues surrounding this application.

> Respectfully submitted, U. Janssen et al.

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November 30, 2009